



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Office of the Administrator

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

July 14, 2005
Refer to: HIPA

The Honorable Christopher Shays
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Shays:

Thank you for your July 13 letter, cosigned by Governor M. Jodi Rell and your congressional colleagues, regarding the fire that damaged a bridge over the Norwalk River on U.S. 7 in Ridgefield, Connecticut. I appreciate your letting me know you support emergency relief (ER) funding to restore the bridge.

I am pleased to let you know that we have today approved the bridge project for ER funding. The ER funding for the work will be additional funding that Connecticut would normally not receive in the absence of an emergency.

Our Division Office in the State is working closely with the Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT) to advance the project and restore service on this vital roadway as quickly as possible. Our engineers and bridge experts will continue to assist ConnDOT as needed to overcome the challenges presented by this emergency. I can assure you of our continued cooperation with ConnDOT officials.

An identical letter has been sent to each of your cosigners. If I can provide further information or assistance, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Peters
Administrator

